

includes viruses, bacteria, yeasts, as well as mites, ticks, fleas, lice and bed bugs that live on our skin. The author has a good sense of humor as well as the ability to present the subject matter in a very readable manner. Illustrations include numerous scanning electron micrographs and excellent photographs of, among others, delousing, antityphus squads, and drawings of various insects. The photograph of the Apollo 12 on the moon illustrates the revealing finding by Surveyor III astronauts and Houston scientists that the camera, which had spent 2 years on the moon's surface, was still contaminated with bacteria from earth. Although this book is written for the layman, it will be of considerable interest to professional entomologists as well as to teachers and students in entomology departments. The book belongs in personal and institutional libraries, as well as in public libraries.

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### BOOK REVIEW

*Introduction to Insect Biology and Diversity.* By Howell V. Daly, John T. Doyen, and Paul R. Ehrlich. McGraw-Hill Book Co. 564 p. 1978. \$19.50.

This handsome volume is a novel and modern approach to an introductory text in entomology. It is intended for students who have completed a basic course in biology. The lectures are devoted to insect structure and function, ecology, behavior, and applied aspects. There are keys for insect identification and the combined volume provides a foundation for professional entomological training. The first part of the book deals with insects as organisms and the excellent illustrations help the beginner to digest the complex nature and diversity of insects. The second part on population biology follows an earlier book by Ehrlich et al. (1974), giving a description of the evolutionary mechanism underlying the great variability of insects. The third part discusses insects in relation to the environment: insects of soil and water, relation of insects to plants, vertebrates, microbes and helminths, as well as biotic and physiological factors of the environment. The fourth part deals with insect diversity. A glossary, a list of references, and a taxonomic and subject index complete the volume. Throughout the book, discussions of biological phenomena are cross-referenced to more detailed treatments in various parts of the volume. Although the book has been written by three authors, it gives a uniform impression of a single-authored text. The photographs, credited to a large number of renowned entomologists, are all excellent, and it can be expected that many teachers of introductory entomology will adapt this text for their courses. Occasionally the book departs from the traditional boundaries of entomology, but the final result is most

satisfactory. There has been a need for a modern, stimulating entomology text and the authors are to be congratulated for preparing this impressive, modern, up-to-date introductory volume.

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